

# Animal Control Laws at a Glance

**“Leash Law”** – All pets are required to be leashed when on property other than their owners’. This includes parks, tot lots, and other public property.

**“Pooper Scooper Law”** – Owners/caretakers are required to clean up after their animal when it defecates (this includes their own property).

**Rabies Vaccine** – All dogs, cats, and ferrets over four (4) months old must have proof of a current rabies vaccine. Rabies tags are not proof, only a certificate issued by a veterinarian is proof.

**County Licenses** – Dogs, cats, and ferrets over four (4) months old are required to be licensed annually (this applies to pets that reside in the county for more than 30 days, even if the animal is licensed in another county). The animal must also wear the license on its collar at all times.

- Requirements:
- a. Rabies certificate
  - b. proof of spay / neuter
  - c. \$25 (unaltered pets) or \$5 (altered pets)

Licenses can be purchased directly from City Hall at 4500 Knox Road

**Pit Bull Law** – Pit Bulls not currently registered in Prince George’s County are illegal. Confiscation and euthanasia of the animal will result and the owner may be fined or face criminal prosecution.

Definition – American Staffordshire Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, and Staffordshire Bull Terrier as well as any of their mixes.

Registration requirements:

- a. Current county license
- b. Photograph of dog
- c. \$50 fee annually
- d. Proof the dog resided in the county prior to 2/97

**Hobby Permit** – Required for households with more than four (4) animals larger than a guinea pig.

## **Low Cost Spay / Neuter Programs:**

SPCA - 301-262-5625

S.N.A.P. – 301-459-6731